

RM2017-12



National Emergency Medicine Association

Edgewood Professional Building

500 Edgewood Road, Suite 105

P.O. Box 1039 • Edgewood, MD 21040

443-922-7533

Fax: 888-682-7987

Web Address: www.nemahealth.org

E-mail: info@nemahealth.org

RECEIVED
POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION

September 6, 2017

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

RE: Docket No. RM 2017-12

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of National Emergency Medicine Association (NEMA), our donors and, most importantly, the first responders we give grants to across the United States. We rely on the U.S. Mail to raise funds and communicate with our supporters and constituents. Without the mail, our fundraising would suffer severely and, as a consequence, so would our mission.

We simply do not understand why suddenly there is a need to increase nonprofit marketing mail rates for the nominal benefit of commercial marketing mail. This would seem to fly in the face of the rationale of the law granting nonprofits a discounted rate.

As a practical matter, injecting unanticipated increases such as those proposed here by USPS will mean that our fundraising budget will not be able to keep pace with the increase in postage costs. The inevitable result will be a reduction in our use of the mail, a reduction in our revenues, and, in turn, a reduction in our ability to serve our donors and the public.

If our postage rates were to increase, say, 5%, and produce a corresponding 5% loss of revenue, we would not be able to fund our programs (National Heart Council, National Stroke Council or National Alzheimer's Council) also our grant program to first responders across the U.S. Respectfully, we ask you to consider this consequence.

Please do not change the current system for calculating nonprofit rates. Implemented by the Postal Service ten years ago, we see no pressing need for a change, especially not one that will do harm to all nonprofits using the mail.

Very Truly Yours,

Kelly A. Herzog

President

National Emergency Medicine Association

Special Programs

